

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
CONTROLLING ZIPPER REGISTRATION
IN PACKAGING EQUIPMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods and apparatus for controlling the registration of one elongated continuous structure (e.g., plastic zipper) with attachments or formed features (e.g., sliders or pre-seals) as it is fed to a sealing station, where it is joined to another elongated continuous structure (e.g., packaging film) with formed features (e.g., thermoformed pockets). The latter elongated continuous structure will be intermittently advanced through the machine, pulling the former elongated continuous structure joined thereto forward. Registration is accomplished by tacking the respective elongated continuous structures together while the respective features on the elongated continuous structures are in proper registration. After tacking, the respective portions of the elongated continuous structures immediately downstream of the tack zone are advanced to the sealing station in proper registration.